

Asian American Experience in Children's Literature

PICTURE BOOKS

Bunting, Eve. **JIN WOO.** c01.

Davey is dubious about having a new adopted brother from Korea, but when he finds out that his parents still love him, he decides that having a baby brother will be fine. (E)

Choi, Yangsook. **THE NAME JAR.** c01.

After Unhei moves from Korea to the United States, her new classmates help her decide what her name should be. (E)

Lee, Milly. **EARTHQUAKE.** c01.

A young Chinese-American girl and her family move their belongings from their home in Chinatown to the safety of Golden Gate Park during the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. (E)

Lewin, Ted. **BIG JIMMY'S KUM KAU CHINESE TAKE OUT.** c02.

The sights, sounds, and smells of a busy Chinese take-out restaurant are seen through the eyes of the owner's young son. (E)

Lin, Grace. **DIM SUM FOR EVERYONE!** c01.

A child describes the various little dishes of dim sum that she and her family enjoy on a visit to a restaurant in Chinatown. (E)

Look, Lenore. **HENRY'S FIRST-MOON BIRTHDAY.** c00.

A young girl helps her grandmother with preparations for the traditional Chinese celebration to welcome her new baby brother. [A 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book.] (E)

Mak, Kam. **MY CHINATOWN: ONE YEAR IN POEMS.** c02

A boy adjusts to life away from his home in Hong Kong, the Chinatown of his new American city. (E)

Provensen, Alice. **THE MASTER SWORDSMAN & THE MAGIC DOORWAY.** c01.

In two original stories set in ancient China, Little Chiu masters the sword and Mu Chi escapes death through his marvelous painting. (E)

Wells, Rosemary. **YOKO'S PAPER CRANES.** c01.

When Yoko moves from Japan to California, she decides to make and send origami cranes to her grandmother for her birthday. (E)

Yin. **COOLIES.** c01.

A young boy hears the story of his great-great-great-grandfather and his brother who came to the United States to make a better life for themselves helping to build the transcontinental railroad. [A 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book.] (E)

FICTION

Banks, Jacqueline Turner. **A DAY FOR VINCENT CHIN AND ME.** c01.

Although Tommy, a Japanese-American sixth-grader, has serious doubts when his mother starts organizing a rally to fight racism, once he and his friends find a cause of their own he gains more understanding of her motives. (J)

Crilley, Mark. **AKIKO IN THE CASTLE OF ALIA RELLAPOR.** c01.

Akiko and her friends reach the final stage of their mission to rescue Prince Froptopit from the castle of Alia Rellapor. (J)

Fletcher, Susan. **WALK ACROSS THE SEA.** c01

In late nineteenth-century California, when Chinese immigrants are being driven out or even killed for fear they will take jobs from whites, fifteen-year-old Eliza Jane McCully defies the townspeople and her lighthouse-keeper father to help a Chinese boy who has been kind to her. (YA)

Hatton, Caroline. **VERO AND PHILIPPE.** c01.

When Mother fires the housekeeper life becomes difficult for the entire Vo family, Vietnamese immigrants to France in 1964, but eight-year-old Vero and her twelve-year-old brother, Philippe, work together to try to convince Mother to rehire her. (J)

Mosher, Richard. **ZAZOO.** c01.

After a mysterious encounter with a boy on a bicycle near her home in rural France, 13-year-old Zazoo learns about family secrets, love, and death. [A 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book and a 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (YA)

Na, An. **A STEP FROM HEAVEN.** c01.

Ju, a girl who immigrates from Korea as a toddler and grows up in California, is conflicted by her attraction to the American customs and her parents' urge to keep their Korean traditions. [The 2002 Michael L. Printz Award Winner, a 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book, and a 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (YA)

Park, Linda Sue. **A SINGLE SHARD.** c01.

Tree-ear, an orphan who lives under a bridge with his wise friend Crane-man, becomes fascinated with a nearby community of potters. Drawn by their exquisite craftsmanship, the adolescent boy begins to assist the master potter Min. [The 2002 Newbery Medal Winner, a 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book, and a 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (YA)

Platt, Randall Beth. **THE LIKES OF ME.** c00.

In 1918, having run away from the Washington State lumber camp she calls home, a fourteen-year-old half-Chinese albino named Cordy makes her way to Seattle and finds work in a carnival. (YA)

Yep, Laurence. **LADY OF CHI'IAO KUO: WARRIOR OF THE SOUTH.** (*The Royal Diaries.*) c01.
This stunning diary of sixteen-year-old Lady of Ch'iao Kuo takes readers on a remarkable adventure to Southern China in the sixth century A.D., where Ch'iao Kuo, a born leader called Red Bird, is courageous and keenly intelligent. (YA)

Yep, Laurence. **WHEN THE CIRCUS CAME TO TOWN.** c02.
Ursula has always wanted to go to the circus, but her face, scarred from smallpox, is an embarrassment to her. Then, Ah Sam, the cook at her parents' stagecoach station, uses his own kind of circus magic to cheer up Ursula. (J)

NON-FICTION

Allen, Thomas B. **REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR: AMERICANS AND JAPANESE SURVIVORS TELL THEIR STORIES.** c01.
Photographs, maps, and extensive quotations from participants tell the dramatic story of the attack on Pearl Harbor from both American and Japanese sides. [A 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book] (J940.54)

Blumberg, Rhoda. **SHIPWRECKED! THE TRUE ADVENTURES OF A JAPANESE BOY.** c01.
In 1841, rescued by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States. [A 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book] (J952)

Cooper, Michael L. **FIGHTING FOR HONOR: JAPANESE AMERICANS AND WORLD WAR II.** c00.
Examines the history of Japanese in the United States, focusing on their treatment during World War II, including the mass relocation to internment camps and the distinguished service of Japanese Americans in the American military. [A 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (YA940.53)

Garland, Sherry. **CHILDREN OF THE DRAGON: SELECTED TALES FROM VIETNAM.** c01.
An illustrated collection of Vietnamese folktales with explanatory notes following each story. (J398)

Hart, Christopher. **MANGA MANIA: HOW TO DRAW JAPANESE COMICS.** c01.
Wanna draw manga? Here's how. [A 2002 ALA Quick Pick for Young Adults] (YA741.5)

JAPANESE AMERICAN INTERNMENT CAMPS. c01.
Presents eighteen firsthand accounts of the internment of Japanese-Americans during the Second World War, from a variety of viewpoints; also includes an introductory essay, a chronology, and a further reading list. (YA940.53)

Lee, Bruce. **BRUCE LEE: THE CELEBRATED LIFE OF THE GOLDEN DRAGON.** c00.

This biography of the martial arts legend includes tons of never published photos as well as Lee writing about his childhood, his family and his stardom. [A 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (921 L)

Olson, Kay. **CHINESE IMMIGRANTS, 1850-1900.** c02.

Discusses the reasons Chinese people left their homeland to come to America, the experiences immigrants had in the new country, and the contributions this cultural group made to American society. Includes sidebars and activities. (J973.04)

Ray, Deborah Kogan. **HOKUSAI: THE MAN WHO PAINTED A MOUNTAIN.** c01.

Hokusai rose from poverty, taught himself to draw, became the promising pupil of a great master, and then defied tradition to become one of the most important and influential artists in the world. (J769.92)

Robinson, Fay. **CHINESE NEW YEAR--A TIME FOR PARADES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS.** c01.

The dragon parade -- The holiday's beginnings -- Symbols and beliefs -- Let the new year begin! -- Celebrating the new year -- Ya sui quian craft project -- Words to know (J394.261)

Shelley, Rex. **JAPAN.** c02.

This book covers the geography, history, government, economy, lifestyle, religion, language, arts, leisure, festivals and food of Japan. Includes color photography, a timeline, glossary, bibliography, and index. (J952)

Sinnott, Susan. **CHINA.** c01.

An introduction to the geography, history, culture, and people of China. (J951)

Wallner, Rosemary. **JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS, 1850-1950.** c02.

Discusses the reasons Japanese people left their homeland to come to America, the experiences immigrants had in the new country, and the contributions this cultural group made to American society. Includes sidebars and activities.(J973.04)

YELL-OH GIRLS!: EMERGING VOICES EXPLORE CULTURE, IDENTITY AND GROWING-UP ASIAN AMERICAN. Ed. by Vickie Nam. c01.

Young women of Asian descent detail their experiences of growing up in America. [A 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (305.235 Y)